

PATENTS

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Tsukasa Kobayashi, et al.

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**Serial No:** To be assigned

**Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** Herewith

**Docket:** 15344

**For:** APPARATUS FOR LIGATING  
LIVING TISSUES

**Dated:** March 6, 2002



Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 63-267345, published November 4, 1998.

Applicants are submitting a copy of the above-cited reference. The relevance of the above-identified reference has been described in the specification.

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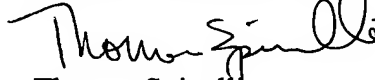
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 6, 2002.

Dated: March 6, 2002

  
Michelle Mustfa

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli".

Thomas Spinelli

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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

15344

Application Number

To be assigned

Applicant(s)

Tsukasa Kobayashi, et al.

Filing Date

Herewith

Group Art Unit

Unassigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		63-267345	11/4/98	Japan				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.